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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

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III. THE WEST

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***El Salvador:** The ouster of President Lemus by national guardsmen early on 26 October probably was engineered by followers of ex-President Osorio. The widely popular Osorio, a retired army officer who appears to have strong backing in the armed forces, seems likely to be called back to power by the military, which had been critical of Lemus for failure to act effectively against Communist and pro-Castro elements. Osorio would almost certainly call elections to legalize the regime and attempt to implement drastic reforms to alleviate the country's deep-seated social and economic problems.

The inclusion of three civilians, among them the leftist university rector Fortin Magana, in the present six-man military-civilian junta is probably an attempt by an essentially military-led group to secure initial support from leftist elements that have sparked unrest in recent months.

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IV. WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

A. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends to initiate hostilities against the United States or its possessions in the immediate future.

27 Oct 60

ii

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A005300490001-9

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- B. No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action against US forces abroad, US allies, or areas peripheral to the Orbit in the immediate future.
- C. Situations offering opportunities for continuing and increased exploitation by Communist hostile action exist in Laos and South Vietnam.
- D. While there is as yet no indication that an armed attack against US military facilities in Cuba is imminent, the Cuban Government is receiving military aid from the Soviet bloc; recent Communist propaganda and Cuban actions against US interests further indicate that the Communist world regards its position in the Cuban situation with growing confidence.

25X1

25X1

25X1

27 Oct 60

iii

25X1

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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President Lemus of El Salvador Ousted

The ouster of Salvadoran President Jose Maria Lemus by national guardsmen early on 26 October probably was engineered by followers of ex-President Oscar Osorio, [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] The US Embassy reports that a combined civilian-military junta consisting of three military men and three civilians has taken power. Press reports that Lemus is now in Guatemala are unconfirmed.

The appointment of three civilians, including a former university rector who has extreme leftist tendencies, probably is an attempt by the essentially military-led groups to secure initial support from leftist elements. It seems likely that the junta will soon call the widely popular Osorio to power. Colonel Alberto Escamilla, who was chief of staff of the army during Osorio's administration, reportedly has been appointed minister of interior in the new government. Osorio, a retired army officer, appears to have strong backing in the armed forces, which began to consider ousting Lemus after he revealed himself as a weak and inept executive in dealing with pro-Communist and pro-Castro demonstrators who threatened the government during August and September.

Osorio, if called to power, would almost certainly call elections to legalize the regime and attempt to implement reforms to alleviate the country's deep-seated social and economic problems. [While Osorio is known to be strongly anti-Communist, he might attempt to apply some Castro-type reform measures. The US Embassy stated last month that as president he probably would not be as openly pro-US or as amenable to US suggestions as Lemus has been.] [redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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THE PRESIDENT**The Vice President**

Executive Offices of the White House

Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

Scientific Adviser to the President

Director of the Budget

Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization

Director, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Special Assistant for Security Operations Coordination

Chairman, Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities

Special Assistant for Foreign Economic Policy

Executive Secretary, National Security Council

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of State

The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Administration

The Counselor

Director, International Cooperation Administration

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Chairman, The Joint Chiefs of Staff

The Director, The Joint Staff

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy

Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

Assistant to Secretary of Defense for Special Operations

Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

The Department of Commerce

The Secretary of Commerce

Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

National Security Agency

The Director

National Indications Center

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